

REMARKS

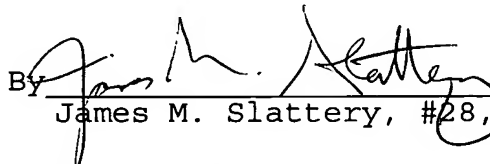
Claims 1-6 are pending in the present application. Claim 6 has been amended to remove multiple dependencies.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By   
James M. Slattery, #28,380

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000

JMS/smt  
0969-0186PUS1

Attachment(s)